

NOTES ON SPIDERS FROM THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (ARACHNIDA, ARANEAE)

Norman I. Platnick

Department of Entomology
The American Museum of Natural History
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024

ABSTRACT

Philisca colulata Hogg, described in the Clubionidae, is transferred to the Anyphaenidae and newly synonymized with *Gayenna strigosa* Tullgren, for which a lectotype is designated. The Holarctic erigonid *Diplocephalus cristatus* (Blackwall) is newly recorded from the Falkland Islands, and is presumed to have been introduced from England.

INTRODUCTION

Until recently, the spider fauna of the Falkland Islands was very poorly known; a single paper by Hogg (1913) describing six new species as endemics constituted the entire literature. However, Schiapelli and Gerschman (1974) recently published an illustrated faunal survey which added ten species to Hogg's list. Although those authors did not record examples of two of the species described by Hogg (*Tetragnatha insulata* and *Philisca colulata*), they were able to demonstrate that two of Hogg's names actually refer to the male and female of the same species. Most importantly, they showed that the great majority of Falkland Island spiders are not endemic but occur in Tierra del Fuego and Patagonia as well; this is in accordance with the findings of Ringuelet (1955) regarding the relationships of the Falkland Island fauna as a whole.

I have recently had the opportunity to examine two lots of spiders from the Falkland Islands, one from West Falkland collected by Dr. Junius Bird of the American Museum of Natural History and one from East Falkland collected by Dr. Sixto Coscarón of the Museo de La Plata. As a result, I am able to add one further species (probably an introduction from England) to the list, to synonymize one of Hogg's species not reported by Schiapelli and Gerschman (bringing the known fauna to 15 species of as many genera and 14 families), and to provide new locality records for several of the other species. In addition, the presence of the first male *Mecysmauchenius* from the Falkland Islands has allowed confirmation of the specific identity of that population.

Three localities represented in these collections are not among those in the samples mapped by Schiapelli and Gerschman; their locations are: Malo River, 60 km northwest of Stanley; Mullet Valley, 8 km southwest of Stanley; and Murrell Valley, 10 km northwest of Stanley. Synonymic and bibliographic information available in Schiapelli and Gerschman (1974) has not been duplicated here unless nomenclatural changes are involved.

I am indebted to Dr. O. Blanco of the Museo de La Plata, Argentina, Dr. R. R. Forster of the Otago Museum, Dunedin, Dr. T. Kronstedt of the Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, Dr. H. W. Levi of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Dr. E. I. Schlinger and Mr. C. Griswold of the University of California, Berkeley, and Mr. F. R. Wanless of the British Museum (Natural History), London, for providing information, specimens, and types.

ANNOTATED LIST OF SPECIES

Agelenidae: *Emmenomma oculatum* Simon

New Records.—East Falkland: Murrel Valley, 3 December 1974, 1 female; Mullet Valley, 4 December 1974, 1 female; Stanley, 5 December 1974, 2 females.

Anyphaenidae: *Gayenna strigosa* Tullgren

Gayenna strigosa Tullgren, 1901, p. 237, pl. 4, Figs. 6a-6c (male lectotype, here designated, from Bahía Gente Grande, Tierra del Fuego, Magallanes, Chile, in Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, examined). Schiapelli and Gerschman, 1974, p. 91, Figs. 18-20.

Tomopisthes strigosus: Simon, 1902, p. 34. Roewer, 1954, p. 553. Bonnet, 1959, p. 4660.

Philisca colulata Hogg, 1913, p. 42, pl. 2, Figs. 5, 5a-5d [female holotype from the Falkland Islands, no specific locality, in British Museum (Natural History), examined]. Roewer, 1954, p. 521. Bonnet, 1958, p. 3538 (*colubata*, lapsus). NEW SYNONYMY.

This anyphaenid appears to be the most common spider on the Falkland Islands. The advanced tracheal spiracle and lamelliform claw tufts of the holotype of *Philisca colulata* indicate that, although described in the Clubionidae, it is an anyphaenid. Along with other Falkland Island specimens of both sexes, this type agrees in genitalic characters with the specimens of the type series of *Gayenna strigosa*; as that type series includes many specimens from several localities, it has seemed advisable to designate a lectotype.

Most of the species which have been assigned to the genera *Gayenna*, *Tomopisthes*, *Oxysoma*, *Amaurobioides*, and perhaps others, form a monophyletic group that probably deserves subfamilial status and that can be distinguished by the presence of two or three teeth (rather than several small denticles) on the cheliceral retromargin and by a characteristic lightly sclerotized area situated at the proximal end of the palpal tegulum. Until this group can be revised, accurate placement of species within the ambiguously defined genera is impossible; thus, the generic placement of *Gayenna strigosa* must be considered tentative.

New Records.—East Falkland: Malo River, 6 December 1974, 8 females; Mullet Valley, 4 December 1974, 1 female; Stanley, 5 December 1974, 8 females. West Falkland: West Point, 2 March 1975, 1 male, 4 females.

Erigonidae: *Diplocephalus cristatus* (Blackwall)

Walckenaeria cristata Blackwall, 1833, p. 107.

Diplocephalus cristatus: Kaston, 1948, p. 170, Figs. 457, 482, 483. Roewer, 1942, p. 692. Bonnet, 1956, p. 1483.

This species, newly recorded from the Falkland Islands, has a Holarctic distribution but is known to have been introduced into New Zealand from England (Forster, 1967). In view of the commerce between England and the Falkland Islands and the capture of the species in Stanley (the capital city and main port), it seems reasonable to assume the same origin for the Falkland Island population.

New Record.—East Falkland: Stanley, 9 December 1974, 2 males, 2 females.

Lycosidae: *Alopecosa nigricans* (Simon)

New Record.—West Falkland: West Point, 2 March 1975, 1 male.

Mecysmaucheniidae: *Mecysmauchenius segmentatus* Simon

New Records.—East Falkland: Malo River, 6 December 1974, 1 female; Stanley, 5 December 1974, 1 male.

Lehtinen (1967, pp. 289-290) has given adequate reasons for removing *Mecysmauchenius* and its relatives in New Zealand from the Archaeidae. Comparison of the male from Stanley with available South American specimens indicates that Schiapelli and Gerschman were correct in assigning the Falkland Island population to *M. segmentatus*, which is also known from Patagonia and the Juan Fernández Islands. The group is in need of revision (there are at least two undescribed species in Chile, and the generic placement of *M. nordenskjoldi* Tullgren is doubtful) but insufficient material is available at present.

Theridiidae: *Anelosimus recurvatus* (Tullgren)

New Records.—East Falkland: Murrell Valley, 3 December 1974, 1 female; Stanley, 9 December 1974, 1 female.

Thomisidae: *Petricus niveus* (Simon)

New Records.—East Falkland: Malo River, 6 December 1974, 1 male; Stanley, 5 December 1974, 1 male, 9 December 1974, 1 female.

Zodariidae: *Storena bergi* Simon

New Record.—East Falkland: Murrell Valley, 3 December 1974, 1 male.

LITERATURE CITED

- Blackwall, J. 1883. Characters of some undescribed genera and species of Araneidae. London Phil. Mag., Ser. 3, 3:104-112.
- Bonnet, P. 1955-1959. Bibliographia araneorum, 2:1-5058. Doulaouere, Toulouse.
- Forster, R. R. 1967. The spiders of New Zealand, part I. Otago Mus. Bull. 1:1-124.
- Hogg, H. R. 1913. Some Falkland Island spiders. Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 37-50, pls. 1, 2.
- Kaston, B. J. 1948. Spiders of Connecticut. Bull. Connecticut State Geol. Nat. Hist. Surv. 70:1-874.
- Lehtinen, P. T. 1967. Classification of the cribellate spiders and some allied families. Ann. Zool. Fennici 4:199-468.
- Ringuelet, R. A. 1955. Ubicación zoogeográfica de las Islas Malvinas. Rev. Mus. La Plata, New Ser., zool. 6:419-464.
- Roewer, C. F. 1942. Katalog der Araneae, 1:1-1040. Friedländer & Sohn, Berlin.
- Roewer, C. F. 1954. Katalog der Araneae, 2:1-923. Institute Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Brussels.
- Schiapelli, R. D., and B. S. Gerschman de Pikelin. 1974. Arañas de las Islas Malvinas. Rev. Mus. Argentino Cienc. Nat., Ent. 4(3):79-93, pls. 1-5.
- Simon, E. 1902. Arachnoideen. Ergebnisse Hamburger Magalhaensische Sammelreise 6(4):1-47.

Tullgren, A. 1901. Contribution to the knowledge of the spider fauna of the Magellan Territories. Svenska Exped. till Magellansländerna 2:181-260, pls. 1-5.